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ojevich, Governor

Department of Employment Security
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Guide To Career Choices

Health Science

A brief look at:

- jobs
- education and training requirements
- wages
- outlook

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health science

guide no. 8

ENTRY : the mean (average) of the bottom third of wages in an occupation

MEDIAN : half of the workers in the occupation earn more than this wage; half earn less

EXPERIENCED : the mean of the top two-thirds of wages in an occupation

HS : High School diploma or equivalent

AD : Associate Degree of Arts/Science community college, 2 years

BA/BS : Bachelor of Arts/Science degree colleges/universities, 4 years

	OUTLOOK		ANNUAL WAGES			
Career Opportunities	2014 Employment	Annual Openings	Entry	Median	Experienced	Education & Training
Registered Nurses	119,357	4,024	$38,778	$52,394	$62,513	AD/BS in nursing. Some career paths (such as teaching) are open only to nurses with BA/BS.
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	68,407	1,686	$16,131	$20,581	$23,861	HS/GED and state-approved training required.
Licensed Practical Nurses	25,951	749	$27,675	$35,677	$40,496	HS/GED, state approved practical nursing program, and supervised clinical work experience.
Home Health Aides	25,869	829	$16,559	$20,280	$24,720	HS; state-approved training is required by licensed home health agencies.
Dental Assistants	16,782	782	$21,719	$29,927	$33,287	Many employers prefer graduates from training programs, however, many are trained on the job.
Pharmacists	14,676	509	$67,014	$88,718	$101,474	BS in Pharmacy (a five-year program); an advanced degree is needed for research, administrative or teaching positions.
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	13,544	378	$18,924	$26,769	$36,214	HS and completion of a training program approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health.
Pharmacy Technicians	13,501	441	$19,696	$23,665	$28,046	One to twelve months of on-the-job training. HS courses in science and math are assets.
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	10,484	389	$34,363	$45,203	$51,743	BS in medical technology or one of the life sciences, such as biology.
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	10,046	269	$19,075	$25,875	$31,860	AD or two to four years of experience as a medical records clerk plus hospital training.
Medical and Health Services Managers	10,045	298	$46,112	$65,537	$86,539	A master's degree in health administration or a related area is the standard credential. Smaller hospitals, however, may accept a bachelor's degree.

Occupational growth rates and job opening data are based on All-Industry projections through the year 2014.

Wage data cover full-time, part-time and seasonal employees but exclude temporary and contractual workers. Wages include commissions and cost-of-living allowances, but exclude overtime and tips.

Job Descriptions

Medical and Health Services Managers
Plan, direct, or coordinate medicine and health services in hospitals, clinics, managed care organizations, public health agencies, or similar organizations.

Pharmacists
Dispense drugs prescribed by physicians and other health practitioners and provide information to patients about medications and their use.

Registered Nurses
Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records.

Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists
Perform complex medical laboratory tests for diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. May train or supervise staff.

Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics
Assess injuries, administer emergency medical care, and extricate trapped individuals. Transport injured or sick persons to medical facilities.

Pharmacy Technicians
Prepare medications under the direction of a pharmacist. May measure, mix, count out, label, and record amounts and dosages of medications.

Licensed Practical Nurses
Care for ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled persons in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, private homes, group homes, and similar institutions.

Medical Records and Health Information Technicians
Compile, process, and maintain medical records of hospital and clinic patients in a manner consistent with medical, administrative, ethical, legal, and regulatory requirements of the health care system.

Home Health Aides
Provide routine, personal healthcare, such as bathing, dressing, or grooming, to elderly, convalescent, or disabled persons in the home of patients or in a residential facility.

Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants
Provide basic patient care under direction of nursing staff. Perform duties, such as feed, bathe, dress, groom, move patients, or change linens.

Dental Assistants
Assist dentist, set up patient and equipment, and keep records.

What is the job outlook?

Overall employment growth in the health services industry will increase much faster than the statewide average through 2014. As the overall population ages, there will be an increasing demand for health services, especially home healthcare, nursing and residential care. Advances in medical technology will continue to improve the survival rate of severely ill and injured patients, who will then need extensive therapy and care. Also contributing to industry growth will be the shift from inpatient to less expensive outpatient care. The most annual job openings are expected in the nursing sector, for example registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and nursing aides. Fast growth is also expected for workers in occupations outside the inpatient hospital sector, such as medical assistants and home health aides. Medical and clinical laboratory technicians as well as medical records and health information technicians are also expected to be in great demand. It will be easier for jobseekers with health-specific training to obtain jobs and advance in their careers in this large and diverse industry.

Where can I find more information?

The Illinois Department of Employment Security offers a wealth of information concerning the Illinois labor market. Visit **www.ILWorkInfo.com** to find out more about:

Career Planning: **Illinois Career Resource Network**
1-877-513-1987
des.icrn@illinois.gov

Labor Market Information: **LMI Source**
1-866-ONE-SRCE (1-866-663-7723)
des.lmi@illinois.gov

Workforce Information: **Workforce Info Center**
des.workinfo@illinois.gov

For assistance with employment and training issues, contact your local Illinois Employment and Training Center. Call 1-888-367-4382 to find the location nearest you.

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www.ides.state.il.us

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Sources:
Illinois Department of Employment Security's "Occupational Projections" and "Occupational Employment Statistics Wage Data" and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' "Occupational Outlook Handbook."

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